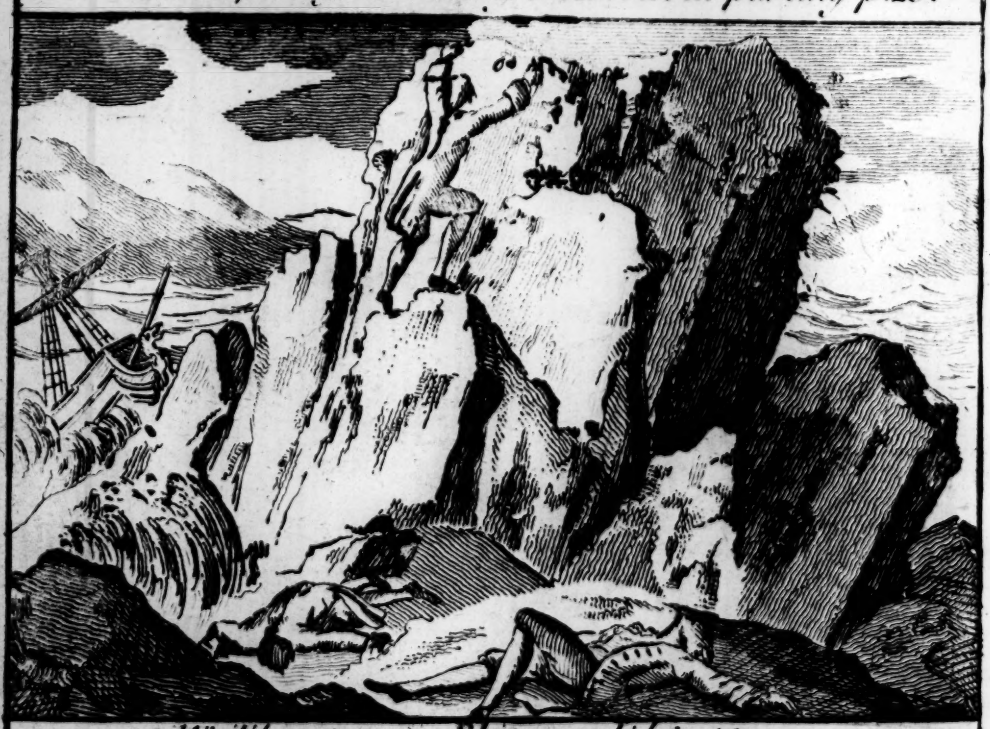
FRONTISPIECE.

Mr. Thompson gives a Ring to Harriet at parting p.26.



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The parting Lovers here in Sorrow view.
The Ring presented proves he will be true.
Yet warring Waves & Winds at once combine.
And render fruitless every wishd Design.
Up the wide Rocks with fainting Steps he goes.
Doomd still to suffer most unheard of Woes.

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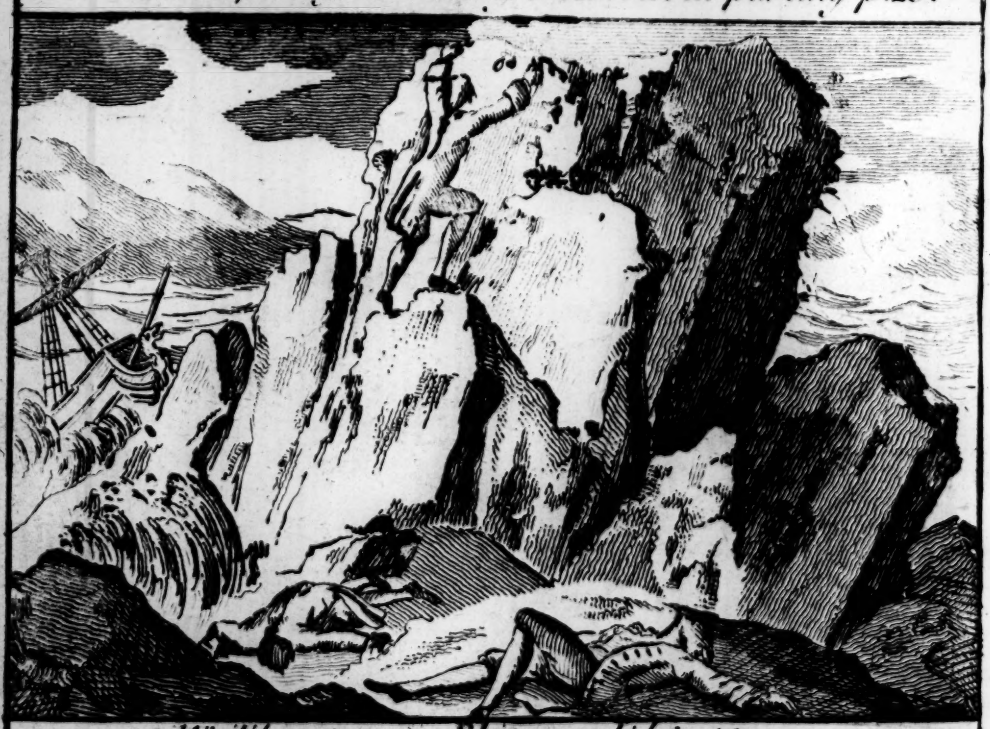

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THE

Unfortunate Happy Lady,

OR

Virtue and Innocence Rewarded;

Being the Hiſtory of

HARRIOT WILDING,

The Daughter of a Baronet in the County of York.

Giving a true account how ſhe was trapan'd to London, and left in a Bawdy Houſe, by her own Brother, in order to cheat her out of her Portion, which was Six Thouſand Pounds, and her miraculous preſervation, and reſcue thro' the worthy behaviour of Mr. Thompſon, a Turkey Merchant.

I. The death of her father & mother, and being left to the care of her brother with ſix thouſand pounds.

II. Perſuades her to go to London, under pretence of introducing her to a lady of virtue and honour, and leaves her in a brothel.

III. Her virtue attempted by one Mr. Thompſon a merchant, who places her at the houſe of an eminent counſellor.

IV. Mr. Thompſon profeſſes an honorable paſſion for her, is obliged to go to Turkey, letters between them, &c.

V. He is caſt away, and ſuppoſed dead: Harriot marries the counſellor, who ſoon dies, and leaves her miſtreſs of above thirty thouſand pounds.

VI. She finds out her former generous friend and lover Mr. Thompſon, ſhe is married to him, and he relates his adventures in Barbary.

VII. Her brother Sir William is aſhamed of his former conduct becomes penitent, marries Eugenia, a lady of twenty thouſand pounds, and all parties are made happy.

With many other remarkable circumſtances too tedious to mention.

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Tho. Sabine

THE

HISTORY

OF THE

Unfortunate Happy Lady:

A True Story.

I Cannot omit giving the world an account of the uncommon Villainy of a gentleman of good family in England, practised upon his sister, which was attested to me by one who lived in the family, and from whom I had the whole truth of the story. I shall conceal the gentleman's own, under the borrowed name of Sir William Wilding, who succeeded his father Sir Edward in an estate of near 4000l. a year, inheriting all that belonged to him except his virtues. It is

true, he was obliged to pay his only ſiſter a portion of 6000l. which he might eaſily have done out of his patrimony in a little time, the eſtate being not in the leaſt incumbered. But the death of his good father gave a looſe to the extravagance of his inclinations. However unnatural it may appear for an own brother to purſue ſo diobolical a ſcheme, as what is here going to be diſplayed, yet inſtances have been known ſufficient to authenticate this as a fact. And notwithſtanding, a liberal education ſhould reaſonably enlarge the mind and open the doors of love, friendſhip, and benevolence, eſpecially the ties of conſanguinity ſo near as brother and ſiſter.

Yet a young man coming early to the poſſeſſion of a large fortune, too often not only ruins his fortune, but his conſtitution, by giving into the follies, vices, and extravagancies of the Town.

The firſt diſcovery he made of his humour was, in the extraordinary rich equipage he prepared for his journey to London, which was much greater than his fair and plentiful fortune could maintain, nor were his expences any way inferior to the figure he made here in town; inſomuch, that in leſs than a twelvemonth, he was forced to return to his ſeat in the country, to mortgage part of his eſtate of a thouſand pounds a year, to ſatisfy the debts he had already contracted in his profuſe treats, gaming, and women; which in a few weeks he effected, to the great affliction of his ſiſter Harriot, a young lady of excellent beauty, education, and virtue; who, foreſeeing the utter ruin of the eſtate, if not timely prevented, daily begged of him

him with prayers and tears, that he might have moved a Scythian or wild Arab, or indeed any thing but him, to pay her portion. To which, however, he ſeemingly conſented, and promiſed to take her to town with him, and there give her all the ſatisfaction ſhe could expect: and having dipped ſome paltry acres of land, deeper than heaven dipped them in rain, he was as good as his word, and brought her to town with him, where he told her he would place her with an ancient lady, with whom he had contracted a friendſhip at his firſt coming to London; adding, that ſhe was a lady of incomparable morals, and of a matchleſs life and converſation. Harriot took him in the beſt ſenſe, and was very deſirous to be placed in the ſame houſe with her, hoping ſhe may grow to as great a perfection in ſuch excellent qualities, as ſhe imagined them. About four days therefore, after they had been in town, ſhe ſolicits her brother to wait on the lady with her. He replied, that it is abſolutely neceſſary and convenient that I ſhould firſt acquaint her with my deſign, and beg that ſhe will be pleaſed to take you into her care, and this ſhall be my chief buſineſs to day. Accordingly that very hour he went to the lady, his reverend and honourable acquaintance, whom he prepared for the reception of his ſiſter, who he told her was a caſt off miſtreſs of his, and deſired her aſſiſtance to prevent the trouble and charge which ſhe knew ſuch cattle would bring upon young gentlemen of plentiful eſtates. To morrow morning, about eleven, I'll leave her with your ladyſhip, who, I doubt not, will give her a wholeſome

leſſon

leſſon or two before night, and your reward is certain. My ſon, returned ſhe, I know the greatneſs of your ſpirit, the heat of your temper, has both warmed and inflam'd me! I joy to ſee you in town again——I won't forget your inſtructions, nor my duty to-morrow: In the mean time I'll drink your health in a bottle of ſherry or two. Your humble ſervant, good Sir William, added ſhe, ſeeing him leave her in haſte.

This lady it ſhould be underſtood, was one of thoſe worſt of all females, who having herſelf for a ſeries of years, been the moſt abandoned of her ſex, had ſet up a ſchool of licentiouſneſs, for the propagating the worſt of vices, the deſtruction of virtue. The accommodation of thoſe who make innocence a prey, and ſupported herſelf like a dutcheſs, by the wages of iniquity, a character not uncommon in this metropolis.

Never was three perſons better pleaſed for a time than this unnatural man, his ſweet innocent ſiſter, and the lady. Upon his return to Harriot, who could not reſt that night, for thinking on the happineſs ſhe was going to enjoy in the converſation of ſo ſerious a lady as her brother's acquaintance, to whom ſhe was in hopes that ſhe might diſcover her deareſt thoughts, and complain of Sir William's extravagance and unkindneſs, without running the hazard of being betrayed. On the other ſide, her brother hugged himſelf in the proſpect he had of getting rid of his own ſiſter, and the payment of 600 l. for the ſum of forty or fifty guineas, by the help and diſcretion of this ſage matron.

About

About ten the next morning, Sir William took coach with his ſiſter, for the old lady's enchanted caſtle, taking only one trunk of her's with them for the preſent, promiſing to ſend her other things to her the next day. The young lady was very joyfully and reſpectfully received by her brother's venerable acquaintance, who was mightily charmed with her youth and beauty. A bottle of the beſt was then brought in, and not long after a very ſplendid entertainment for breakfaſt: the furniture was all very modiſh and rich, and the attendance was ſuitable. After they had eat and drank what they thought convenient, the reverend old lady led them out of the parlour to ſhew them the houſe, every room of which they found anſwerably furniſhed to that whence they came. At laſt, ſhe led them into a very pleaſant chamber, richly hung, and curiouſly adorned with the pictures of ſeveral young ladies, wherein there was a bed, which might have been worthy the reception of a dutcheſs. This madam, ſays ſhe, is your appartment, with the anti-chamber, and a little withdrawing room. Alas, Madam! returned the dear innocent unthinking lady, you let too great a value on your ſervant; but I rather think your ladyſhip deſigns me this honor for the ſake of Sir William, who has had the happineſs of your acquaintance for ſome months: ſomething for Sir William, returned the venerable lady, but much more for your ladyſhip's own, as you will have occaſion to find hereafter. I ſhall ſtudy to deſerve your favors and friendſhip, madam, replied Harriot: I hope you will, madam, ſaid the barbarous man. But my

buſineſs

buſineſs now calls me hence; to morrow at dinner I will return to you, and order the reſt of your things to be brought with me. In the mean while, purſued the traitor, kiſſing his ſiſter, as he thought and hoped, the laſt time, be as cheerful as you can, my dear! and expect all you can wiſh from me. A thouſand thanks, my deareſt brother, returned ſhe, with tears in her eyes: and, madam, ſaid he, to his old miſchievous confederate, giving her a very rich purſe, which held fifty guineas, be pleaſed to accept this trifle, as an humble acknowledgment of the great favour you do this lady, and the care of her, which you promiſe; and I am ſure ſhe cannot want.

No ſooner the treacherous brother was gone, than the old lady, taking Harriot by the hand, led her into the parlour; where ſhe began with her to this effect. If I miſtake not, madam, you were pleaſed to call Sir William, Brother, once or twice in converſation: pray be pleaſed to ſatisfy my curioſity ſo far, as to inform me in the truth of this matter? Is it really ſo, or not? replied, bluſhing, your ladyſhip ſtrangely ſurpriſes me with this queſtion; for I thought it had been paſt your doubt that it was ſo. Did not he let you know ſo much himſelf? I humbly beg your pardon, madam, replyed the offspring of old mother Eve, that I have ſo viſibly diſturbed you with my curioſity: but indeed, madam, Sir William did not ſay your ladyſhip was his ſiſter, when he gave me charge of you, as the neareſt and deareſt friend he had in the world. Now my father and mother are dead, ſaid the ſweet innocent, who never had more children

dren than us too, who can be nearer or dearer friend unto me, than my brother ir William, or than I, his ſiſter to him; None! certainly you'll excuſe me, madam, anſwered the other, a wife or miſtreſs may. A wife indeed, returned the beautiful innocent has the pre-eminence, and perhaps a miſtreſs too, if honourably loved and ſought for in marriage: but, ſhe continued, I can aſſure you ladyſhip that he has not a wife; nor did I evet hear he had a miſtreſs yet. Love in youth, ſaid old venerable, is very fearful of a diſcovery. I have known, madam, a great many fine young ladies and gentlemen who have concealed their violent paſſiions and greater affection, under the notion and appellation of brother and ſiſter. And your ladyſhip imagines Sir William and I to do ſo? replied Harriot, by way of queſtion, It were no imprudence, if you did, madam, returned the old lady, with all the ſubtilty ſhe had learned from the ſerpent, Alas madam! replied ſhe, there is nothing like ſecrecy in love: It is the very life and ſoul of it! I have been young myſelf, and have known it by experience. But all this, madam, interrupted Harriot, ſomething nettled at her diſcourſe, cannot convince me, that I am not the true and only ſiſter, by father and mother of Sir William.

But, pray madam, purſued ſhe, what is your portion? and what makes you doubt your brother's kindneſs? Harriot then told her how much her brother was to pay her, and gave her an account of his extravagancies, as far as ſhe knew them; to

which the other was no ſtranger; and, doubtleſs, could have put a period to her ſorrows with her life, had ſhe given her as perfect a relation of his riotous and vicious practices, as ſhe was capable of; but ſhe had farther buſineſs with her life, and, in ſhort, bid her be of good comfort, and lay all her care on her; and then ſhe could not miſs of continual happineſs. The ſweet lady took all her promiſes for ſterling and kiſſing her impious hand, humbly returned her thanks, not long after that they went to dinner; and in the afternoon three or four young ladies came to viſit the right reverend lady.

Had the innocent Harriot known, or heard any thing of the ſhameful vices of the town, ſhe muſt ſoon have gueſs'd what ſort of perſon this lady was, as likewiſe thoſe which ſhe introduced as her relations, though they might try to behave ever ſo modeſt, for there is ſomething always to betray them, to a diſcerning eye, yet tho' innocence may be awhile annexed, true virtue will be ever guarded againſt it.

She told her new gueſt that thoſe were all her relations, and no leſs than her own ſiſter's children. The diſcourſe among them was general and very modeſt, which laſted for ſome hours; but they left the parlour for the garden, where, after about half an hour's walk, there was a very fine deſert of ſweetmeats and fruits brought into one of the arbours. Cherries, peaches, plumbs, rich and

ſmall

ſmall wines, with tea, chocolate, &c. compleated the whole ladies treat; the pleaſure of which was much heightened by the voices of two of her ladyſhip's ſham nieces, who ſung very charmingly. The dear ſweet creature thought ſhe had happily got into the company of angels; but, alas! they were angels that had fallen more than once. She had heard talk of nunneries, and having never been out of her own country till within four or five days, ſhe had certainly concluded ſhe had been in one of thoſe religious houſes now, had ſhe but heard a bell ring, and ſeen them kneel to prayers. At laſt ſaid the white devil, would my dear Tommy were here! O ſiſter, cried another, you won't be long without your wiſh; for my huſband and he went out together, and both promiſed to be here after the play. Is my brother, Sir Francis, with him there? aſked the firſt: yes, anſwered a third, Sir Thomas and Sir Francis took coach from St. James's, about two hours ſince. We ſhall be excellent company when they come, ſaid the fourth, I hope they will bring the fidlers with them, added the firſt.

The repeating of the names of gentlemen of titles and fortune is here plainly intended, to give Harriot a grand idea of the company and connections, which the good lady of the manſion was honored with, and theſe young females invited as decoy ducks, to bring her into the ſame ſituation with themſelves.

Don't you love muſic, madam, aſked the old lady? ſometimes, madam, replied Harriot, but now I am out o'tune myſelf. A little harmleſs mirth will cheer your drooping ſpirits, my dear, returned the other, taking her by the hand, come! theſe are all my relations as I told you, madam? and ſo conſequently are their huſbands. Are theſe ladies all married, madam? Harriot aſked. All, all, my dear ſoul! replied the inſinuating mother of iniquity; and thou ſhalt have a huſband too, e'er long Alas, madam, returned the fair innocent, I have no merit? beſides, I never yet could love ſo well as to make choice of one man before another.

How long have you lived then, madam; aſked the lady. Too long by almoſt ſixteen years, replied Harriot, had heaven ſeen good. This converſation laſted till word was brought, that Sir Francis and Sir Thomas, with two other gentlemen were juſt alighted at the gate; which ſo diſcompoſed the young lady, that trembling ſhe begged leave to retire to her chamber. To which, after ſome perſuaſions to the contrary, the venerable lady waited on her. For theſe were none of the ſparks to whom Harriot was deſigned to be ſacrificed. She had not been retired above an hour, e're a ſhe-attendant waited on her, to know if ſhe wanted any thing, and what we would pleaſe to have for her ſupper, if ſhe would not give her lady her company below? To which ſhe returned, that ſhe would not ſup, and that ſhe wanted nothing but

reſt,

reſt. which ſhe ſhould preſently ſeek in bed. About nine the next morning, ſhe was again viſited from her lady, by the ſame ſhe-attendant, to know how ſhe had reſted, and if ſhe would pleaſe to command her any ſervice. Harriot returned, that ſhe had reſted very well moſt part of the morning, and that ſhe wanted nothing but to know how her lady had ſlept, and whether ſhe were in health, unleſs it were the ſight of her brother. The ſervant returned with this anſwer to her lady, while Harriot made ſhift to riſe, and began to dreſs without an aſſiſtant ; but ſhe had hardly put on any thing more than her night gown, e'ere the lady herſelf came in her diſhabille, to aſſure her of her brother's company with them to dinner, exactly at one o'clock. Dear madam, good morrow to you, ſaid ſhe to Harriot. Good morrow to your ladyſhip returned the deſigned victim, after which ſhe betook herſelf to her devotion ; at the end of which, the lady returned, attended by a ſervant, who brought tea for her breakfaſt ; which might be ſeaſonable enough to Harriot, who could not forbear diſcovering the apprehenſions ſhe had of her brother's unkindneſs, ſtill entertaining her reverence with the fear ſhe had of his diſappointment that day at dinner ; which the other oppoſed with all the ſeeming reaſons her art could ſuggeſt, till the clock had ſtruck twelve ; when a ſervant came to tell the old lady, that one Sir William Wilding would certainly wait upon her at one, and deſired that he might dine in the young lady's appartment, to avoid being ſeen by any viſitants that might come ;

come ; and beſides that, he had invited a gentleman, his particular friend, to dinner with him there. This meſſage being delivered aloud by the ſervant, was no little ſatisfaction to the poor deſponding young lady, who diſcourſed very chearfully of indifferent matters, till the clock gave them notice that the hour was come ; within three minutes after which, word was brought to the old lady, that a gentleman below enquired very chearfully for Sir William Wilding, whom ſhe immediately went down to receive, and led up to Harriot.

Madam, cried the great miſtreſs of her art, this is the gentleman whom Sir William has invited to dinner with us, and I am very happy to ſee him, for he is my worthy friend.

Here, Thompſon, for that was the gentleman's name, ſaluted Harriot and acquitted himſelf like a perſon of good ſenſe and education, in his firſt addreſs to her ; which ſhe returned with all the modeſty and ingenious ſimplicity that was ſtill proper to her. At laſt, ſhe aſked him, how long he thought it would be e'er Sir William would come ? to which he replied, that Sir William told him, unleſs he was there exactly at half an hour after one, they ſhould not ſtay dinner for him ; but, however, that if he ſhould be ſo unhappy as to loſe their converſation at dinner, he would not fail to wait on them by four o'clock at fartheſt.

The

The young lady ſeemed a little uneaſy at this, but the gentleman appearing ſo very modeſt, and ſpeaking it with ſuch an aſſured gravity, took away all thoughts of ſuſpicion. To ſay truth, Thompſon was a very honeſt, modeſt, worthy, and handſome perſon; and had the command, at preſent, of many thouſand pounds, he was by profeſſion a Turkey Merchant. The minute came then at length, but without any Sir William; ſo dinner was ſerved up in the room next to Harriot's bed chamber. What they had was nice and ſeaſonable, and they were all three as pleaſant as could be expected, without Sir William; to whoſe health the glaſs went round once or twice.

Dinner being over, and the table cleared, the old lady intreated Mr. Thompſon to entertain the young lady with a diſcourſe of his travels, and of the moſt remarkable paſſages and encounters of them, which he performed with a modeſty and gravity peculiar to himſelf. When the old lady perceived that he had made an end, or at leaſt, that ſhe deſired to proceed no further, ſhe took occaſion to leave them together, in haſte. The gentleman, you may believe, was very well pleaſed with her retreat, ſince he had a diſcourſe to make to Harriot of a quite contrary nature to the preceding, which required privacy. Madam, ſaid Thompſon, how do you like the town? Have you yet ſeen any man here whom you could love? Alas, ſir! ſhe replied, I have not ſeen the town, only in a coach as I paſſed along nor ever was in

any

any houſe except this and another, where my brother lodged: And to your other queſtion, I muſt anſwer that I love all men. That's generous indeed, madam! cried he, there is then ſome hope that I am one of the number. No doubt, ſir, ſhe replied, that I love you as well as any, except Sir William.

Is he the happy man then, madam? ſaid Thomſon If to be loved beſt by me may make any man happy, doubtleſs it muſt be he, for he is my own brother. I fancy, madam, returned he, that you may make me as a dear relation to you as Sir William. How is that poſſible ſir? ſhe aſked. Thus, madam, replied he, drawing cloſer to her, by our nearer approaches to one another. O, heaven defend me! cried ſhe aloud, what do you mean? take away your hand, you uncivil man! help! madam! my lady! O, ſaid Thomſon, ſhe's gone purpoſely out of hearing. Am I betrayed then? ſhe cried. Betrayed! as if your pretty innocent ladyſhip did not know were you were lodged. Ah, lady, ſaid he, this feint will never do. Come child, purſued he, here are an hundred guineas for you; and I promiſe you yearly as much, and two hundred with every child that I ſhall get upon thy ſweet body. Faith I love thee, thou pretty creature. Come let's be better acquainted; you know my meaning. Hell does, no doubt of, ſhe returned, O, monſter! I hate the ſight of you. With that ſhe flung from him, and ran into the bed chamber, where ſhe thought to have locked herſelf

herſelf in; but the key was conveyed into his pocket.

Thither he purſued her, crying, Ah, madam, this is the proper field for our diſpute. Perceiving her error, and animated by deſpair, ſhe ruſhed between him and the door, into the outward room again, he ſtill following, and dodging her from chair to chair; and ſhe ſtill ſhrieking. At laſt, cried he, a parley, madam, with you. Let me aſk you one queſtion; and will you anſwer me directly and truly to it? Indeed I will, ſaid ſhe, if it be civil. Don't you know then, that you are in a naughty houſe, and the old lady is a rank procureſs.

And to deal honeſt with you, ſhe and I have made a bargain for your perſon, and the price I am to pay is not inconſiderable; perhaps you may be unacquainted with this, but as you now know it, I hope you will leave trifling, and meet my expectations, with that warmth, which my paſſion and liberality requires.

O, heaven! cried ſhe, kneeling, with tears guſhing out from her dear eyes, thou aſſerter and guardian of innocence! protect me from the impious practices intended againſt me! Then looking ſtedfaſtly on him, ſir, purſued ſhe, I can but difficultly gueſs what you mean; but unleſs you prove what at firſt you ſeemed to me, would ſay, an honeſt, worthy gentleman, I ſhall be in danger

of eternal ruin. You, ſir, are the only perſon that may yet preſerve me. Therefore I beſeech you, ſir, hear my ſtory, with the injuries and afflictions that ſo dreadfully torment me; of which I am ſure none of thoſe barbarians, of which you had occaſion to ſpeak but now, would have been guilty! O hear and help me! for heaven's ſake, hear and help me! I will, poor creature! returned he; methinks I now begin to ſee my crime and thy innocence, in thy words and looks.

Here ſhe recounted as follows. My father was Sir Edward Wilding, of Oxford, a perſon admired all over the country, for his liberality, integrity and every ſocial virtue; my mother was the pattern of her ſex: and me, and Sir William, my brother, their only offspring: Sir William was heir to the eſtate, with only a proviſion of 6000l. for my fortune, which he has ſtill delayed paying; I am convinced he has lived an extravagant life ever ſince they died, but could not imagine he was ſo loſt to every ſenſe of virtue and delicacy, as to conſent to the ruin of his own ſiſter, and villainouſly betray me into ſuch a ſituation. O, could his parents look from their divine abode, how would they grieve to find themſelves ſo diſhonored, by ſo graceleſs, ſo unworthy a deſcendant, many are the hardſhips I have undergone ſince that period; I have been confined in the country, denied the acquaintance of genteel company, made a recluſe from the world, kept from my fortune, which might have honorably ſettled me in life, as my virtue

virtue and descent required. Instead of which he would now betray me to infamy, and sully the long glories of his ancestry, by the worst of all crimes; but I will die first: If he is wicked, I will not, and now if you are the man your first appearance promised, protect, and do not strive to injure me, but by protecting the innocent reap the heart-felt satisfaction of being good and generous.

And, now cried she, sobbing and weeping, how dare I trust this naughty brother again? can I be safe with him, think you, sir? If you distrust that I am yet his sister; here, sir, take the key, said she, and open that trunk within, where you will find letters from him to me, in his own hand; and from my own dear father too, Sir Edward, that gracious, that good man! he shewed us both the paths of virtue, which I have not yet forsaken. Pray satisfy me, sir, and see the truth! for your satisfaction I will madam, said he; but I am now fully convinced, that you have greater beauties within, than those I admire without.

Saying this he opened the trunk, where he read a letter from her father, and another from her brother.

From Sir Edward Wilding to Harriot.

My dear child,

"Your stay at your aunt's has been rather longer than we expected, but as you are with that best of

ſiſters, are eaſy in regard to your welfare, am very ſorry to hear ſhe is ſo ill, but hope ſhe will ſoon regain her health. My dear Harriot, I would have you attend to her with earneſtneſs, it may be of ſervice to you, ſhe has lived a life of exemplary virtue, her own good natural ſenſe is improved by reading, and a knowledge of the world, from her you may form a regular plan for your future conduct, a calm temper, reſpectful behaviour, humanity to your fellow creatures, and thereby gain the love and eſteem of every one, which is the earneſt wiſh of your loving father,

E. Wilding."

Letter from Sir William Wilding, to his ſiſter Harriot.

Dear Siſter,

" I am ſorry to hear the death of our aunt has robb'd you of your beſt company; you ſay you are melancholy, deſire I will pay the fortune bequeathed you by my father, and ſeem to think I do not uſe you well; all the apologies I have to make, are, that buſineſs of various kinds, have hindered me from ſettling that matter, but promiſe you it ſhall be done forthwith, and then I have a propoſal to make for bringing you to town, that you may divert your melancholly, with its amuſements, and form ſuch connexions as may be ſuitable to your age,

age, birth, and fortune; till when I beg you will believe me ſincerely,

Your affectionate brother,

W. WILDING."

Having laid the letters down, he returned again to her with this advice: I ſee, madam, ſaid he, that you have money there, and ſeveral things of value; which I deſire you to ſecure about you this moment; for I mean to deliver you out of this curſed place; if you dare put any confidence in a ſtranger, after your own brother has acted a part of ſo great a villain; if you dare truſt a ſtranger too, madam, who had himſelf a deſign upon you, and I fear I ſhall love you. Do you fear that, ſir, ſaid ſhe, why, I love you dearly now, becauſe I ſee that you are going to be good again, I hope, nay, I reſolve I will; though it coſt me my life, ſaid he. Can you ſubmit, madam, to attend on a young lady of my acquaintance here in town, till I can provide better for you? O, I can do any thing, a chamber maid, a cook maid, a ſcullion, what you ſhall think fit, though never ſo mean, that is not naughty. Well, madam, ſaid he, compoſe yourſelf then, and ſeem a little pleaſant when I bring up that old factoreſs of hell. I will endeavour it, ſir, ſhe returned: and he went down to the devil's chief agent, to whom he ſaid, that the poor thing was at firſt very uneaſy, but that now ſhe had conſented to go along with him for an hour or two to

ſome

ſome other place, doubting your ſecrecy; for ſhe would not have her brother know it, as ſhe calls him, for a thouſand pounds, and more money.

Well, my ſon, replied the old lady, you may take her with you; but you remember our bargain. O madam! cried he, did you ever know me falſe to you? no, no, young ſmock-faced wag, but beſure you bring her again to night, for fear Sir William ſhould come. Never doubt it! come up with me, cried he, you will ſee a ſtrange alteration, I believe.

To Harriot they came then, whom they found walking about the room, and looking ſomething more pleaſantly than ſhe had ever done ſince ſhe came thither.

After he had taken her money and other things of value, ſo madam, ſaid ſhe, how does your ladyſhip do? I find the ſight of a young, handſome gentleman has worked wonders with you in a little time. I underſtand you are going to take a walk with my worthy friend here, and 'tis well done: I dare truſt you with him, but with no other man living, except Sir William. Madam, returned the fair afflicted lady, I am ſtrangely obilged to you for your care of me. You won't ſtay late Mr. Thompſon? ſaid the mother of miſchief. No, no, replied he, I will only ſhew the lady a play, and return to ſupper.

At these words, they went down, where a coach was called; which carried them to Counsellor G———'s house, Lincoln's Inn Fields, whom they found accidently at home. Thompson began his apology to the good old counsellor, who was his relation, for bringing a strange lady thither, with a design to place her in his family: but, sir, continued he, if you knew her sorrowful story, you would be as ambitious of entertaining her, as I am in earnest to intreat it of you. A very beautiful lady 'tis, returned the counsellor, and very modest, I believe. That I can witness, replied the other. Alas, sir! replied the fair unfortunate, I have nothing but by modesty and honest education to recommend me to your regard: I am wronged and forsaken by my dearest relation; then she wept extravagantly: that gentleman can give you an account of my misfortunes, if he please with greater ease, and less trouble than myself. Not less trouble, believe me, madam, returned Thompson, and then began to inform the counsellor in every point of her unhappy circumstances. The good old gentleman heard them with amazement and horror; but told her, however, that she need not despair, for he would take care to right her against her brother? and, that in the mean time she should be as welcome to him, as any of his nearest kindred, except his wife and daughter.

Having thus removed her from that seminary of wickedness, with what valuables she had; the wicked procuress never heard any more of her, tho' it

is

is a great pity that no honeſt man, who had it in his power, had proſecuted ſo infamous a character, and cleanſed the neighbourhood of ſo vile an inhabitant. What a ſhame to think ſuch places of reſort ſhould be ſuffered in defiance of law and good government.

In a little while after, the councellor's lady and her daughter came home, who were ſurpriſed at the ſight of a ſtranger, but more at her beauty; and moſt of all at her ſtory, which the good old gentleman himſelf could not help relating to them; which ended, the mother and daughter both kindly and tenderly embraced her, promiſing her all the aſſiſtance within their power, and bid her a thouſand welcomes.

Thompſon ſtaid there till after ſupper, and left her extremely ſatisfied with her new ſtation. In leſs than a month's time Thompſon had the good fortune to find Sir William at his lodgings in Soho-ſquare, where he diſcourſed him about his ſiſters portion, and defired Sir William to take ſome ſpeedy care for the payment of it, otherwiſe ſhe had friends that would oblige him to it, though ever ſo contrary to his intentions.

Wilding aſking where ſhe was? the other enquired where he left her? Sir William replied, that he had placed her with an old gentlewoman of his acquaintance, and that he thought ſhe was there ſtill. No, ſir, returned Thompſon, I have deliver-

ed her

ed her out of the jaws of perdition and hell. Come, Sir William, anſwered he, it was impiouſly done, to leave your beautiful, young, and virtuous ſiſter, to the managemeut of that pernicious woman. I found her at old Bromley's, who would have proſtituted her to me for two hundred guineas; but her heavenly virtues might have ſecured and guarded her from more violent attempts than mine. Bluſh, if you can, ſir! and repent of this! it will become you. If not, ſir, you will hear farther from me, added he, and left him, ſtaring after him.

This diſcourſe was a great mortification to the knight, whoſe conſcience, hardened as it was, felt yet ſome pain by it. He found he was not like to continue ſafe or at eaſe there, wherefore he immediately retreated into a place of ſanctuary, called the Savoy, whither his whole equipage was removed as ſoon as poſſible, he having left orders with his ſervants, to report that he went out of town that very afternoon for his own country.

Thompſon in the mean time returned to the counſellor's, with a great deal of joy, for having diſcovered Sir William at his lodgings, which was likewiſe no little ſatisfaction to the councellor, his lady, and daughter; Harriot only was diſturbed when ſhe heard the good old gentleman threaten to lay her brother faſt enough; but, alas! he was too cunning for them; for in a whole twelvemonth after they could not ſee him, nor any one that could

give an account of him, for he had changed his true name and title, for that of 'Squire Sportſman. The farther purſuit of him then ſeemed fruitleſs to them, and they were forced to be contented with their wiſhes to find him.

Thompſon by this time had entertained the ſincereſt affections and nobleſt paſſion that man can be capable of, for Harriot, of which he had made her ſenſible, who had at that time complied with his honorable demands, had ſhe not intreated him to expect a kind turn of providence, which might happily, e'er long, put her in poſſeſſion of her right, without which, ſhe told him, ſhe could not conſent to marry him, who had ſo plentiful a fortune, and ſhe nothing but her perſon and innocence. How, madam, cried he, have you no love in ſtore for me? Yes, ſir, returned ſhe, as much as you can wiſh I have in ſtore for you, and ſo I beg it may be kept till a better opportunity. Well, madam, ſaid he, I muſt leave you for ſome months, perhaps for a whole year: I have received letters of advice that urge the neceſſity of my going to Turkey; I have not a week's time to endure ſo dreadful a ſeparation as I muſt ſuffer; thou beautiful, thou dear, thou virtuous creature, let me begin now! Here, thou tendereſt part of my ſoul! continued he, giving her a rich diamond ring, wear this till my return! I hope the ſight of it may ſometimes recall the dying memory of Thompſon, to your better buſied thoughts. Ah, Thompſon, ſaid ſhe, nothing can ſo well, nothing I am ſure

can

can better employ my thoughts than thy dear ſelf; heaven only excepted.

They enlarged a great deal more on this ſubject at that time: but the night before his departure was entirely ſpent in ſighs, vows, and tears, on both ſides.

In the morning, after he had intreated the lady's and her daughter's care and kindneſs to Harriot, the remaining and beſt part of his ſoul, with one hearty kiſs, accompanied with tears, he took a long farewell of his dear miſtreſs, who purſued him with her eyes, till they could give no farther intelligence of him.

He never omitted writing to her and her couſin, by every opportunity, for nine months, as he touched at any port, as their letters will prove.

To the ever beloved Miſs Harriot Wilding.

"My deareſt life as I am convinced your regard for me, makes you long to hear from me, and that my welfare is conſtantly in your mind, according to my promiſe, I take the firſt opportunity of writing to the only object which engroſſes my mind.

At our departure from England, we were favored with happy gales, and unclouded ſkies, which bleſſed be providence, have continued till we made this port, where we ſhall ſtay but a very ſhort

time juſt to take in water and proviſions, ſo hat I cannot expect to hear from my dear charmer, 'till I arrive at the end of my intended voyage which I hope will be propitious. I ſhall ſtill continue to write at every opportunity, and beg you will do the ſame, as the more letters I ſhall have from thy dear hand, the more I ſhall be charmed, they will comfort me after my fatigues, and make me fancy myſelf in thy beloved company, which nothing in the world can be more pleaſing to me. I beg you will give my regards to the worthy counſellor and his lady, not forgetting Eugenia, your fair companion, to whom I ſhall ſhortly write in a more particular manner, that they will ſtill continue their friendſhip and protection to you, which will for ever endear them to me, as the greateſt proof of their regard.

O, my dear Harriot, tho' the vaſt ocean at preſent divides us, believe me my mind and fixed affections are with you, and will be till death. Adieu my dear Harriot, for the preſent, and believe me ſincerely your faithful

THOMSON."

Tho' Harriot knew her letters could not be received before his arrival in Turkey, ſhe immediately wrote as follows.

My dear

My dear Thomſon,

"There is nothing on earth can give me ſo much heartfelt ſatisfaction, as to hear that you are well, and that heaven has permitted the winds and waves to waft you thus far towards your deſtined port, which that you may gain in ſafety is the conſtant wiſh of my mind; for, who ought I to love and reſpect, equal to the man who preſerved my honor, and reſcued me from the hands of infamy, and placed me with the friends of honor and virtue; yes, my dear Thomſon, (I need not bluſh to call you ſo) Mr. G——, his lady, and daughter, behave with the moſt unbounded generoſity and kindneſs, to me an unfortunate outcaſt, and mention your name with ſo much reſpect, that it convinces me the more of your worth, and of my unworthyneſs, they want no freſh arguments to induce them to continue their protection to me, and beg to be remembered with the utmoſt ſincerity to you: pray do not neglect writing at every opportunity, and if my letters are permitted to arrive ſafe, I fear you will have ſo many, you will be tired of them, but in that reſpect I truſt to your love and candour, of both which you know I have the beſt opinion; believe me, I never offer up my humble prayer to the almighty, (which are many times a day) but you are included in them, that you may do your buſineſs ſoon, and return ſpeedily, is the ſincere wiſh of one who is, and ever muſt be

Your's

H. WILDING.

In

In the ſpace of a few months, ſhe received another letter as follows.

To Miſs Harriot Wilding.

My adorable Harriot,

" It is with infinite ſatisfaction I now write to inform you of my ſafe arrival in Turkey, and have ſettled my affairs, which were left in diſorder, by the death of the factor, as well as I could wiſh, and hope in a few months the ſhip will be ready to ſail, on its return to England, on board of which I ſhall have property to a very large amount.

But what is all the riches of the univerſe, to the poſſeſſion of my dear Harriot, the thoughts of returning to her, gives a ſecret happineſs, not to be expreſſed.

I enquired for your letters as ſoon as poſſible, and found you had not forgot me; I know you are too ſincere to flatter me, and that all you have ſaid ſprings from your generous and innocent heart, ah, my dear girl, your tender expeſſions give me the greateſt pleaſure imaginable, and all my future life ſhall be to make you happy; in a ſhort time the ſtorms of fortune will be blown over, and the cherub peace, and affluence ſhall ſeat us in the temple of happineſs, where love, and all the domeſtic tranquil which ſweetens life will be ours, but this is yet only in idea, I have got the perils of the ocean

ocean to encounter once more, yet truſt in that power, which conveyed me hither in ſafety, will return me back, and that it will liſten to the intreaty of one ſo innocent as my charming Harriot is. Farewell my love, expect me as ſoon as poſſible, and believe me unalterably your's,

THOMSON."

Pray write on the receipt of this, as it may perhaps come to hand.

As ſoon as Harriot received this, and communicated the contents to Mrs. G——, and Eugenia, ſhe wrote the following in anſwer to it.

My dear Thomſon,

" Your laſt letter has given me uncommon pleaſure, as well as every one here.

That you are ſafe arrived, and ſettled your buſineſs ſo agreeable to your mind, I am thankful for, and that you will have ſo valuable a cargo, is no doubt pleaſing.

But what will give me true felicity will be the return of your valuable ſelf, which is in my eſtimation ſuperior to all the riches in the world, but, alas! I have my fears, you have ſtill the wide ocean to croſs, and the winds and waves are not always obedient, nor will the prayers of the moſt worthy

worthy and innocent always prevail; yet 'tis right always to truſt in the goodneſs of providence, who alone can rule the deep, bring light from darkneſs, and ſmooth the ragged path of fate.

If love and conſtancy, joined with pure innocence, are the care of heaven, I truſt you are under its protection.

That you ſtill are ſo, and will continue to be ſo, I doubt not, that you are in good health, gives me joy; and I am pleaſed to aſſure you, that I have mine; pray be careful to preſerve yourſelf, for her, who can never be happy without you, if a repetition of what I have ſo often ſaid can be of any ſervice to you: I again declare, my whole affections are fix'd on my dear Thomſon, who I hope, will ſoon come to the arms of his impatient

HARRIOT WILDING."

Afterwards, they could not hear from him for above half a year, when by accident, the counſellor met a gentleman of Thomſon's acquaintance, at a coffee-houſe, who gave him an account, that the ſhip and he were both caſt away, near five months ſince; that moſt, if not all the ſhips company, periſhed; of which it was, feared, Thomſon was one, having never been heard of. That his loſs in that ſhip amounted to above twelve thouſand pounds.

With

With this dreadful and amazing news, the good old gentleman returns home, afflicts his poor sorrowful lady and daughter, and almoſt kills unhappy Harriot? who, the next day, by mere chance, and from a ſtranger, who came on buſineſs to the counſellor, heard, that one Sir William Vilding, an extravagant, mad young ſpark of ſuch a county, who lately went by the borrowed name and title of 'Squire Sportſman, had mortgaged all his eſtate, which was near four thouſand a year; and carried the money over with him into France.

This, added to the former news, put ſo great a check on her ſpirits, that ſhe immediately dropt in a ſwoon; whence ſhe only recovered to fall into what was of much more dangerous conſequence, a violent fever, which held for near five weeks, e'er ſhe could get ſtrength to go down ſtairs.

Two years more paſſed without one word of advice from Thomſon, or any one elſe; inſomuch, that they all concluded, he was certainly dead: and, 'twas true, indeed, that his ſhip and he were caſt away, much about that time that the gentleman gave the counſellor a relation: that it was certain he had loſt above twelve thouſand pounds, and had like to have loſt his life, but being very expert in ſwimming, he got to ſhore upon the coaſt of Barbary, the wreck happening not to be above three leagues from thence: he was in almoſt as bad a condition as if he had been drowned, for here he was made a priſoner to one of the natives;

in which miſerable circumſtance he languiſhed for above ſix years for want of a ranſom.

Two years more paſſed on; towards the latter of which, the old lady G——, took her bed, deſeperately ſick, inſomuch that ſhe was given over by all her phyſicians: ſhe continued in great miſery for near two months: in all which time Harriot was conſtantly with her all the day or all the night; much about that time ſhe died, and, dying, told her huſband, that ſhe had obſerved he had a particular eſteem or kindneſs for Harriot, which was now a great ſatisfaction to her; ſince, ſhe was aſſured, that if he married her, ſhe would prove an excellent nurſe to him, and prolong his life by ſome years.

As for Eugenia, added ſhe, you need not be concerned, I am ſure, ſhe will conſent to any thing that you ſhall propoſe, having already ſo plentifully provided for her; the good old gentleman anſwered, that he would fulfil her will, as far as lay in his power; and not long after, ſhe departed this life.

Half a year was now expired, ſince her interment, when the old counſellor began to plead his own cauſe to young Harriot, reminding her, that now the death of Thomſon was out of queſtion, and that therefore ſhe was as much at liberty to make her own choice of an huſband as he was of a wife; not forgetting, at the ſame time, to let her know

know that his widow, whoever had the good fortune to be ſo, would be worth above thirty thouſand pounds, in ready money; beſides a thouſand a year. But, above all, he urged his dying lady's advice to him, that he would marry her; and hoped that ſhe would ſee the will of the dead ſatisfied.

The young lady being broken into ſorrows, and having mortifyed her appetite to the all enjoyments of this world, and not knowing where to meet with ſo fair an overture, though at firſt, in modeſty, ſhe ſeemed to refuſe it, as too great an honor, yielded at laſt, to the perfect ſatisfaction of his daughter, madam Eugenia, who loved Harriot ſincerely.

They kept their wedding every nobly for a month, at their own houſe in Lincoln's Inn Fields; but the memory of the old lady was ſtill ſo freſh with the young lady G——, that ſhe prevailed with him to remove to another, more convenient, as ſhe fancied, in Covent Garden.

They had dwelt there not much more than two months e'er the good old gentleman fell ſick and died. Whether it was the change of an old houſe for a new, or an old wife for a young one, is yet uncertain, though his phyſicians ſaid, and are ſtill of opinion, that doubtleſs, it was the laſt.

It is paſt all doubt, that ſhe did really mourn for, and lament his death; for ſhe loved him perfectly,

and paid him all the dutiful reſpects of a virtuous wife, while ſhe lived within that ſtate with him; which he rewarded as I have ſaid before. His funeral was very ſumptuous and honorable indeed! and as ſoon as it was over, Eugenia deſired her young, beautiful mother-in law, to retreat a little with her in the country, to a pleaſant houſe ſhe had, about twenty miles from town; urging, that ſhe could by no means enjoy herſelf under that roof where her dear father died.

The obliging ſtep mother, who might, more properly have been called her ſiſter being exactly of the ſame age with her, readily complied and ſhe paſſed away all that ſummer with Eugenia, at their country ſeat, and moſt part of the winter too; for Eugenia could by no means be prevailed on to lie one night in her mother's houſe; it was with ſome reluctance that ſhe conſented to dine there ſometimes.

At length the whole year Harriot's widowhood was expired; during which you cannot but imagine that ſhe was ſolicited and addreſſed to by many lovers, or pretended lovers, but ſhe had never liked any man ſo well as to make him her huſband by inclination, unleſs it was Thomſon, ſuppoſed to be devoured by the greedy inhabitants of the ſea.

Whilſt her fortune began to mend thus, her brother's grew worſe; but that was indeed the effect

ſect of his extravagancy. In leſs than two years time he had ſpent eight thouſand pounds in France: whence he returned to England, and purſuing his old profuſe manner of living, contracted above 1001. debt here, in leſs than four months time; which not being able to ſatisfy, he was arreſted, and thrown into a goal; whence he removed into the King's Bench, on that very day that the counſellor died. There, at firſt, for about a month he was entertained like a gentleman; but finding no money coming, nor having a proſpect of any, the marſhal and his inſtruments turned him to the common ſide, where he learned the art of making pegs for ſhoe-makers; a myſtery which he had been a ſtranger to all his life long, till then.

It was then he wiſhed he might ſee his ſiſter, hoping that ſhe was in a condition to relieve him; which he was apt to believe, from the diſcourſe he had from Thomſon, ſome years paſt. Often he wiſhed to ſee her, but in vain: however, the next Eaſter after the old counſellor's death, Harriot according to cuſtom, ſent her ſteward to relieve all the poor priſoners about town: among the reſt, he viſited thoſe on the common ſide of the King's-Bench; where he heard them call him Sir William Wilding, to partake of his lady's charity.

The poor prodigal was then feeding on the relief of the baſket, not being yet able to get his bread at his new trade. To him the ſteward gave a crown, whereas the others had but half a crown a-piece.

a-piece. Then he enquired of ſome of the unhappy gentlemen, of what country Sir William was? how long he had been there? and how much his debts were? of which he received a ſatisfactory account.

Upon his return to his lady, he repeated the diſmal news of her brother's misfortunes to her, who immediately diſpatched him back again to the priſon, with orders to give him twenty ſhillings more at preſent, and to get him removed to the maſter's ſide into a convenient chamber, for the rent of which the ſteward engaged to pay, and promiſed him, as ſhe had commanded, twenty ſhillings a week, as long as he ſtaid there, on condition that he would give the names of all his creditors, and of all thoſe to whom he had engaged any part of his eſtate; which the poor gentleman did moſt readily and faithfully: after which the ſteward enquired for a taylor, who came and took meaſure of Harriot's unkind brother, and was ordered to provide linen, a hat, ſhoes, ſtockings, and all ſuch neceſſaries, not ſo much as omitting a ſword: with all which he acquainted his lady at his return, who was very much grieved at her brother's unhappy circumſtances, and at the ſame time extremely well pleaſed to find herſelf in the condition to relieve him.

The ſteward went conſtantly once a week to pay him his money, and Sir William was continually very curious to know to whom he was obliged for

ſo

ſo many great favors; but he was anſwered, that they came from a lady who deſired to have her name concealed.

In leſs than a year, Harriot had paid 2500ol. and taken off the mortgage of 250ol. per annum of her brother's eſtate; and coming to town from Eugenia's country ſeat one day, to make the laſt payment of 2000l. looking out of her coach on the road near Dartford, ſhe ſaw a traveller on foot, who ſeemed to be tired with his journey, whoſe face ſhe thought ſhe had formerly known: this thought invited her to look on him ſo long, that ſhe at laſt purſuaded herſelf it was Thomſon, or his ghoſt; for to ſay truth he was very pale and thin, his complexion ſwarthy, and his cloaths perhaps as rotten as if he had been buried in them.

However, unpleaſant as it was, ſhe could not forbear gazing after this miſerable ſpectacle, and the more ſhe beheld it the more ſhe was confirmed it was Thomſon, or ſomething that had uſurped his figure.

In ſhort, ſhe could not reſt, till one of her ſervants who rode by the coach, whom ſhe ſtrictly charged to go to that poor traveller, and mount him on his horſe, till they came to Dartford; where ſhe ordered him to take him to the ſame inn where ſhe baited, and refreſh him with any thing that he would eat or drink, and after that to hire a horſe for him to come to town with them: that

then

then he ſhould be brought home to her own houſe, and be carefully looked after, till further orders from her. All which was moſt duly and punctually performed.

The next morning ſhe ſent for the ſteward, and ordered him to take the ſtranger to ſome place which he might know, to accommodate him with every neceſſary which at preſent he ſtood ſo much in need of, in the ſame manner as he had done for her brother, and gave him charge to uſe him as her particular friend, and aboye all, if poſſible learn the particulars of his life, and by what means he became reduced to his preſent miſerable condition.

All which he moſt faithfully and diſcretely performed, and brought his lady an account of his ſufferings by ſea, and ſlavery among the Turks, as I have before related; adding, that his name was Thomſon.

This was the greateſt happineſs, certainly, that ever yet the dear beautiful creature was ſenſible of; who ordered that Thomſon ſhould be taken meaſure of by the beſt taylor that could be found; that he ſhould have three of the moſt modiſh rich ſuits that might become a gentleman of a thouſand pounds a year, with all other ſuitable neceſſaries, to be got ready in leſs than a month; in which time, ſhe took every opportunity ſhe could either find or make, to ſee him, and not to be ſeen by him,

him. She obliged her ſteward to invite him to a play; whither ſhe followed them, and ſat next to Thomſon, and talked with him; but all the while maſqued.

In this month's time ſhe was daily peſtered with the viſits of her addreſſors; ſeveral there were of them, but the chief were only a lord of a very ſmall eſtate, though of a pretty great age: a young bluſtering knight, who had a place of 500l. a year at court, and a country gentleman of a very plentiful eſtate, a widower, and of a middle age.

Theſe three only of her lovers ſhe invited to dinner, on the firſt day of the next month; in the mean while, ſhe ſent a rich ſuit, and equipage proportionable, to her brother, with an invitation to dine with her on the ſame day. Then ſhe wrote to Eugenia to come and ſtay in town, if not in the houſe with her, for two or three days before, which her affectionate daughter obeyed, to whom Harriot related all her brother's paſt extravagancies, and what ſhe had done for him, in redeeming moſt part of his eſtate, begging of her, that if ſhe could fancy his perſon, ſhe would take him into her mercy, and marry him; being aſſured that ſuch a virtuous wife as ſhe would prove, muſt neceſſarily reclaim him, if yet he were not perfectly convinced of his follies: which, ſhe doubted not, his late ſufferings had done.

Eugenia returned, that ſhe would wholly be directed and adviſed by her in all things, and that, certainly, ſhe could not but like her brother, ſince ſhe liked the ſiſter ſo perfectly well.

The day came, and juſt at twelve, Thomſon meeting the ſteward on the ſtairs, coming from his lady, Thomſon then told him, that he believed he might take the opportunity of that afternoon, to go over to Putney, and take a game or two at bowls.

The ſteward returned, very well, ſir, I ſhall let my lady know it, if ſhe enquires for you.

Harriot, who overheard what they ſaid, called the ſteward in haſte, and bid him call Thomſon back, and tell him, ſhe expected his company at her table to day, and that ſhe deſired, he would appear like himſelf.

The ſteward ſoon overtook him at the door, juſt going out as Eugenia came in, who looked back on Thomſon.

The poor gentleman was ſtrangely ſurpriſed at the ſight of her, as ſhe was at him, but the ſteward's meſſage did more amaze and confound him. He went directly to his chamber to dreſs himſelf in one of thoſe rich ſuits lately made for him.

Harriot was as pleaſant at dinner, as ever ſhe had been in all her life. She looked very obligingly, on all the ſparks, and drank to every one of them particularly beginning to the lord, and ending to the ſtranger, who durſt hardly lift up his eyes a ſecond time to her's, to confirm him that he knew her.

Her brother was ſo confounded, that he bowed, and continued his head down till ſhe had done drinking, not daring to encounter her eyes, that would then have reproached him with his villainy to her.

After dinner the cloth was taken away; ſhe began thus to her lovers: my Lord! Sir Thomas! and Mr. Fatacres I doubt not, that it will be of ſome ſatisfaction to you to know whom I have made choice for my next huſband; which now I am reſolved no longer to defer.

The perſon to whom I next drink, muſt be the man who ſhall ever command me and my fortune, were it ten times greater than it is; which I wiſh only for his ſake, ſince he deſerves much more.

Here, ſaid ſhe, to one that waited, put wine into two glaſſes; then ſhe took the diamond ring from her finger, and put it into one of them: my

dear Thomſon, cried ſhe, I drink to thee, and ſend the back thy own ring, with Harriot's heart.

He ſtartled, bluſh'd and looked wildly, whilſt all the company ſtared on him. Nay, pledge me, purſued ſhe, and return me the ring, for it ſhall make us both one. He bowed, kiſſed, and returned it, after he had drank off his wine.

The defeated lovers knew not how to reſent it; the lord and knight were for going, but the country gentleman oppoſed it, and told them, it was the greateſt argument of folly to be diſturbed at the caprice of a woman's humour. They ſat down again, therefore, and ſhe invited them to her wedding on the morrow

The next day the wedding was celebrated in a private manner, as Harriot was determined not to be troubled with too many gueſts, as ſhe wanted to hear from Thomſon's mouth ſome account of the perils and dangers he had gone through ſince he left Turkey.

A ſumptuous dinner was however provided, and her former lovers, according to promiſe attended; all were in good humour, and every one tried who moſt ſhould compliment the bride and bridegroom, and while the deſert was on the table Thomſon was begged to relate his adventures, which he very obligingly did, and began as follows.

My

My ſhip according as I informed you, my dear Harriot, was ready for ſailing in a ſhort time, and the weather ſeemed to promiſe to be as fair as it was before, and ſo it was ſeveral days, but ſoon the elements began to ſhew a different ſcene, the winds began to blow from all quarters, and the ſky grew big with dark clouds, the thunder began to roll, and the forked lightening to ſpread around, ſo that in the night you might ſee to pick up a pin upon the deck: every thing was horror and confuſion, nothing could equal it, even the waves ſeemed ſometimes as tho' they were on flames; indeed, all who know any thing of the ſeas, know what too often they have to encounter with, many of the men loſt their eye-ſight by the lightening, who tumbled, ſome overboard, and ſome down in the hold, or other parts of the ſhip, and to add to our diſtreſs, the cry of ſhe has ſprung a leak, was not the leaſt alarming.

However, in the morning the tempeſt ſeemed ſomething to abate, tho' the ſky was ſtill cloudy, and ſeemed by its blackneſs, to promiſe a ſhower of pitch; all hands were kept to the pumps, to keep out the water from the leak, which however, ſeemed rather to increaſe.

We found we had been drove much out of our latitude, yet were in hopes ſhe ſhould weather the ſtorm, till we could make ſome port, no matter where ſo as it was among civilized people; but

providence

providence over ruled our hopes, for night coming on again, the winds began to roar as loud as before, and the ſhip drove at a conſiderable rate, when a loud cruſh gave us to underſtand our main maſt was gone by the board, and it was impoſſible to work the ſhip any longer.

The ſailors now began their uſual pranks in ſuch caſes, they drank all the liquor which came in their way, dreſſed themſelves in the richeſt ſuits they could find, and behaved in every reſpect like madmen, while I, with all thoſe who preſerved their reaſon, prayed fervently to the almighty, to avert our threatened deſtruction, but in vain, for before the morning, we ſtruck on a dreadful rock, on the coaſt of Barbary, as I afterwards found.

The waves now kept up a conſtant beating againſt the ſhip, till day light appeared, when the proſpect of our ſituation was terrible indeed, nothing but a ridge of rocks being to be diſcovered by many miles about, and the ſea daſhing againſt them, and then falling back made a moſt dangerous ſurf, which continued a moſt frightful roar thro' all the cavities of the rocks.

The ſailors now in the height of deſpair, got out the boat, and tumbled one over another into it, but the ſurf in a minute over turned them all, and drove them directly into the cold arms of death.

Soon

Soon after this ſad ſpectacle, as I and two gentlemen paſſengers, and a lady, were ſtanding on the deck, a huge wave ſwept us all over at once, from which time I was inſenſible for ſeveral hours, as I may ſuppoſe, for when I came to myſelf, I found I was lodged on the ledge of a rock, the two gentlemen a little below, quite dead, being daſhed to pieces by the violence in which they were thrown from the ſhip.

I looked on them, and began to envy their fate: poor wretch, ſaid I, to myſelf, I have eſcaped the fury of the waves, to periſh in a worſe manner, perhaps be ſtarved to death with hunger, on this barren rock; or if I can gain its ſummit, be devoured by wild beaſts, or worſe perhaps, by canibals, here.

I hope I ſhall be forgiven, ſaid Thomſon, all my reliance on providence left me, and I gave myſelf up to deſpair, and continued almoſt in a ſtate of inſenſibility for ſeveral hours, when ſome ſecret power ſeemed to whiſper to me, have you forgot your Harriot; I ſtarted from my reverie, and putting my hand into my boſom, found your letters there, which I kept conſtantly in a little ſilk bag, which I made on purpoſe, and faſtened it round my neck with a ribbon, that you might always be near my heart.

Here he looked at Harriot, whose handkerchief was held to her eyes, which ſtreamed with inceſſant tears.

The company ſympathiſed with her, and Sir William turned to Eugenia, with a look full of love, and aſtoniſhment, for that young lady had made an impreſſion on his heart, which from his former conduct one would hardly have thought him capable of.

This dumb ſcene laſted ſome time, when Thomſon proceeded.

The thoughts of you, my dear Harriot, revived my hopes, and I once again ſubmitted myſelf to the will of providence.

I began to conſider my ſituation more attentively, I found the rock was ſteep and craggy, that in ſome places, a little ſhrubbery preſented itſelf, and as the old proverb is, a drowning man will catch at a ruſh, I was determined to try to get to the top.

I had pretty good ſucceſs for ſeveral yards, when the rock appeared above me, quite perpendicular, and impoſſible to climb; indeed, at a little diſtance it ſeemed more uncavern, and went winding round like a pair of ſtairs, but the difficulty lay in getting to that place; however, I determined to attempt it,

it, and at laſt did, by hitching my toes and hands into ſmall crevices, for I was forced to throw away my ſhoes for fear of ſlipping.

Having got over this difficulty, I returned my ſincere thanks to providence, but judge my aſtoniſhment, when caſting my eyes on one ſide, I perceived ſitting in a diſconſolate poſture of a cliſt of the rock, the lady who had been waſhed overboard with me, ſhe turned her eyes towards me, and lifted up her hands; I was ſtruck with her diſtreſs, and determined, if poſſible, to aſſiſt her; I pulled off a handkerchief, which I had about my neck, and put one end down to her; the hopes of life gave her courage, ſhe laid hold of it, and as I got from one ſtep to another, ſhe followed me upon her hands and knees, tho' I had nothing to truſt to but a little ſhrubbery, which providentially did not give way, and we both got to the top.

The way down was nothing near ſo difficult, and we ſoon accompliſhed it; there was not a houſe to be ſeen, and the land ſeemed to be very poor, as ſcorched by the ſun, which now was very hot? we were both weak and faint for want of refreſhment, as well as thro' the fatigue we had undergone, and had no relief in view; indeed, as tho' providence had ordered it, I had ſome bits of buiſcuit in my pocket, which were ſoaked with ſea water yet they at preſent were a little feaſt to us, and this was owing to a conſtant method I had of chewing a bit of hard

biſcuit when on board, as a relief againſt a phlegmatic cough, which I was very much troubled with.

We had ſet ourſelves down at the foot of the rock, to enjoy this ſhort but welcome repaſt, when I enquired of the lady if ſhe was not hurt, ſhe ſaid at preſent ſhe felt no hurt but weakneſs, that ſhe had never loſt her ſenſes from the moment ſhe left the ſhip, that one ſurge after another had carried her into that place where I diſcovered her, that ſhe had given up all hopes of ever ſeeing the face of any human creature any more, and was waiting with patience, when fate ſhould think proper to diſmiſs her from a troubleſome world, but what her fate was to be now, ſhe could not tell.

This lady had ſuffered not a little, as I had learned before.

She was the daughter of an Engliſh merchant, who took her very early with him to Turkey, her mother being dead, that ſhe lived almoſt in a ſtate of ſlavery, ever ſince her childhood, owing to her father's capricious humour, and his partiality to the Turkiſh cuſtoms, that he had died about two years ſince, and left it in his will, that ſhe ſhould poſſeſs all his fortune, if ſhe continued in Turkey, but if ſhe went from thence to England, ſhe was to have little more than would carry her thither,

thither, and all was to go to a Turkey merchant his acquaintance who reſided near her.

The merchant had ſolicited her hand as one of his wives, which ſhe rejecting, he at laſt gave over the purſuit, and generouſly gave her half what her father died worth, and free leave to go to England, which was the reaſon ſhe had embarked on board our ſhip, where, like myſelf, ſhe loſt her all, except a few jewels ſhe had about her.

Her name was Fatima, her father having called her ſo after the Turkiſh language.

I thought it neceſſary to mention this ſaid Mr. Thomſon, as I ſhall have more occaſion to mention her in the courſe of my adventures.

We were ſtill ſitting under the rock, when ſuddenly we heard the trampling of horſes, and preſently a number of men well mounted appeared in view.

Two or three inſtantly diſmounted, and laying hold of me, ſtrip't me of what little money was in my pocket, and a few jewels, but what was worſe than all was, they took from my boſom the little ſilk bag, with my dear Harriot's letter in it.

However, this was returned to me, when I came to be examined before their ſuperior.

They robbed the lady likewiſe, and then ſeating us on horſeback behind them, carried us to Tunis, as I underſtood afterwards.

Here I was ſold as a ſlave, to a very rich rover, who uſed me very ſeverely at firſt.

What became of the lady I did not know for many years; my maſter however, underſtanding that I had friends, and property, in England, and that I might poſſibly procure a handſome ranſom, began to abate of his ſeverity; yet ſtill, I was a priſoner and a ſlave.

I wrote ſeveral letters to you my dear Harriot, as well as to others, but as I never received any anſwer, imagine they miſcarried.

But to make ſhort of the ſtory, one day a very grand perſon made a viſit to my maſter, with his lady, who, after dinner, at which I attended, I was deſired to attend; I could not gueſs for what, whether to be puniſhed for ſome fault, or perhaps, to be ſold to the viſitor, or exchanged, as they ſometimes did one ſlave for another; yet. ſtill I had a certain tremulation about my heart, which I could not account for.

However

However I obeyed.—As ſoon as I entered, the lady aſked me, in Engliſh, if I knew her; I was ſurpriſed.

I thought I knew her voice, but being dreſſed in a mooriſh habit, was ſometime before I could recollect the indentical Fatima, who was caſt on the rock, at the ſame time with myſelf.

She told me that ſhe never knew what was become of me 'till that day when I attended at dinner, that ſhe was married to the perſon to whom ſhe was ſold, and had now no more thoughts of going to England; that having acquainted her huſband, and my maſter, who I was, they had agreed that Fatima ſhould pay my ranſom, and be at liberty to return to my native country.

The good natured Fatima gave me a genteel preſent, to help me on the voyage; but, I was again caſt away on the coaſt of Suſſex, where I was uſed worſe than the unbelievers of Barbary had uſed me, for they ſtript me of every thing but my bag of letters, and gave me that filthy apparel which you beheld me have on when your goodneſs took notice of me.

Mr. Thomſon here finiſhed his narrative, when every one expreſſed their aſtoniſhment at what he had

had gone through, and praiſed the hand of providence, that had preſerved him.

Harriot turning round, ſaid, now brother, I have not quite forgotten you, though you have not been pleaſed to take notice of me: I have a diſh in reſerve for you, which will be more grateful to your fancy than all you have taſted to day. Here; cried ſhe to the ſteward, do you ſerve up that diſh on the table.

What! more tricks yet, cried the Lord and Sir Thomas! Come, Sir William, ſaid his ſiſter, uncover it! He did ſo; and cried out, O matchleſs goodneſs of a virtuous ſiſter! Here are the mortgages of the beſt part of my eſtate! O what a villain! what a monſter I have been.

No more, dear brother, ſaid ſhe, with tears in her eyes, I have yet a greater happineſs in ſtore for you: this lady, this beautiful, virtuous lady, with twenty thouſand pounds, will make you happy in love.

Saying this, ſhe joined their hands; Sir William eagerly kiſſed Eugenia's, who bluſhed, and ſaid, thus, madam, I hope to ſhew how much I love and honour you.

My

My couſin Eugenia! cried Thomſon? The ſame, my dear loſt couſin, Thomſon! replied ſhe.

O! ſaid he, in a tranſport, my preſent joys are greater than all my paſt miſeries! my miſtreſs and my friend are found, and ſtill are mine.

Nay, faith ſaid my Lord, this is pleaſant enough to me, though I have been defeated of the enjoyment of the lady.

The whole company in general went away very well pleaſed that night.

Sir William became a true convert to virtue. and in a little time gained the good affections of Eugenia, who ſoon after gave him her hand, and all parties were rendered mutually happy, to the end of their lives.

ADVENTURE

OF A

Merchant, who after ſome conſiderable Misfortunes which happened to him, met with a very lucky turn of Fortune.

IT happened ſome time ago that an honeſt merchant of Ferrara, being obliged to take a journey to Verona, ſat out with one of the ſervants to go and finiſh an affair in this laſt town concerning his traffick, in hopes of thereby advancing his family. He was juſt departed from his houſe before he met with three cavaliers, who at firſt ſight appeared to him to be honeſt men, though in reality they were down right robbers. Theſe gentlemen of the high roads knew ſo well at firſt how to diſguiſe their profeſſion, that the honeſt merchant thought himſelf very happy in falling into ſuch good company; nothing but what was very civil and courteous was diſcourſed of among them, and they ſhewed themſelves extreemly officious and obliging to their new companion. They offered him their aſſiſtance in any thing wherein they might be capable of ſerving him, and prayed that he

he would accept of the continuation of their company to the end of the journey he was going, as they were bound to the ſame place themſelves. The offer being gladly accepted of, they jogged on together with the merchant, with deſign to lighten his carriage as ſoon as a convenient time and place ſhould permit, being perſuaded that they ſhould not be deceived in finding a good booty. In the mean time, as it is the cuſtom of travellers to talk of many indifferent things, they began by chance to ſpeak of certain prayers frequently uſed by ſome people, mornings and evenings; when at length one of the highwaymen turning to the good man, aſked him; well, ſir, and what is the prayer you uſe when you go into the country? I'll tell ye, gentlemen, replied the merchant; as I am but an illiterate perſon, and more uſed to wordly buſineſs than prayers, I don't uſe to make mine very long; however I have this good cuſtom of repeating a few Pater-Noſters, and ſome two or three Ave Maria's to recommend my ſelf to God and St. Julian, to the end that they may vouchſafe to find me good lodgings at nights; and I can aſſure you, that though theſe prayers are but ſhort, yet I have oftentimes found the good effects of them, and have by that means been providentially delivered from many eminent dangers which have threatened both my life and fortune; which makes me believe, that St. Julian is my very good patroneſs, ſince ſhe has defended me from ſo many perils, and afterwards brought me to good quarters at night.

We ſhall ſoon ſee (ſaid the rogue to himſelf) if ſhe will be propitious to you at this juncture, for I am reſolved you ſhall not go over charged with money to bed.

With this reſolution they marched on for a while, till at length they found themſelves come into a by-road well ſhaded by trees, and where there was a difficult river to paſs. Being thus arrived in a place ſo convenient for the deſign of our three banditti, they all of a ſudden laid hands on their honeſt fellow traveller, who not in the leaſt expecting ſuch a ſalutation, ſuffered them to ſeize his portmanteau, they afterwards ſtripped him to his ſhirt, and taking his horſe and all from him, aſſured him that he had nothing to do but to look out for the lodging St. Julian had prepared for him.

The unfortunate man was now at a ſtand what meaſures he ſhould take, or what to reſolve on; and the ſeaſon of the year being pretty boiſterous, he found it exceſſively cold, having neither ſhoes nor hat left him; all his dreſs conſiſted only in one ſhirt, and not a houſe to be found near the place, it being all laid waſte by the fate of war. In this condition he now began to look upon himſelf as one whoſe miſery was complete; however, neceſſity giving wings to his feet, made him reſolve, to endeavour, if poſſible, to reach a certain little city, in hopes if he could but get in, to find ſome perſon of his acquaintance, that might help him in his miſery.

With theſe thoughts, he made what haſte he could: but all his diligence was not ſufficient to bring him time enough to gain admittance into the town; for at his arrival, he found the gates were ſhut, which put him upon walking round the walls divers times, to ſee if he could not diſcover either ſome hole to get in at, or ſome ſmall breach whereby he might climb up; but all to no purpoſe, every thing ſeemed to be in ſo good a poſture, as would puzzle a cat to find entrance into the town; inſomuch,

much, that he resolved at least to seek out for some place were neither snow nor rain mght fall on his back; so having observed that there was a house of very beautiful appearance upon the ramparts, which had a private out-let, that seemed to communicate with the place he was then at, he approached nearer to the sally-port, and there seated himself after the best manner he could very melancholly and sad, with the apprehension of starving to death with cold, before it could be day, as it was then winter, and the nights of course very long and sharp; while his servant who had made his escape was, in all probability, got before a good fire in the city, with a full belly, or else in some warm bed, where he might make his repose at his pleasure, without concerning himself for his master, who was thus shivering at the threshold of the door, exposed to the injury of the weather.

The good man made a strange kind of noise all this time with his teeth like an ape cracking of nuts; and thus passed his time in loud shiverings, as people frequently make when they find themselves pretty much pinched by the severity of winter.

In the mean time it fell out, as good fortune would have it for him, that this Marquis of N —— (who passionately loved a certain young widow) being come that day to town to divert himself with his mistress, had caused a warm bath, and a magnificent supper to be got ready. But as man proposeth and god disposeth, it happened that the Marquis, upon some affairs of the last importance, found himself obliged the same day to quit the town, to go and give orders what he would have done else where, leaving both the bath and the widow, without enjoying either. This disappoint-

ment being matter of great chagrin to the lady, who had formed to herſelf many pleaſing ideas, and had anticipated delights to come, made her however reſolve at laſt, to make uſe of the bath prepared for her lover; to ſup well afterwards, and then go to bed, in hopes of a more favourable opportunity.

This reſolution was ſoon executed; inſomuch, that the maid having got things in readineſs, the lady went down to the bathing room, from whence ſhe ſoon heard the complaint of our poor ſufferer, whom ſhe took by the oddneſs of the ſound he made, to be a ſtork; ſuch was the violence of his trembling, as occaſioned his making that noiſe with his jaws and throat, which the bird aforementioned is much addicted to. This gave ſo great an aſtontſhment to the pretty widow, that ſhe inſtantly ſent her chamber-maidto try if from the height of the wall ſhe could diſcover what it was. She forthwith obeyed her commiſſion, and having eſpied our poor adventurer, aſked him who he was, what it was he was doing, and what buſineſs he had there; After which interrogatories, as ſoon as he had ſatisfied her, he intreated her to aſſiſt him in his diſtreſs, and not let him periſh in the cold. The good girl being touched with compaſſion, went to make a recital of ſo ſurpriſing an accident to her miſtreſs, who being no leſs ſenſible of the calamities of the poor wretch than the chamber maid was, bid her open the door, and let him into the anti-chamber of the bath, without making any hurry or diſturbaace, where he might warm himſelf very co: veniently.

A commiſſion ſo charitable as this was, ſoon was put in execution by the well diſpoſed ſervant maid. At firſt he ſeemed to make ſome difficulty in accepting

cepting of the favour which he ſtood ſo much in need of, but by the preſſing commands, and the neceſſity he found himſelf under, he was prevailed upon to make uſe of what was intended for the Marquis.

Love, who only had the management of this affair, and laboured for the bringing it to perfection, opened the eyes of the lady; inſomuch, that finding a man in every reſpect to her liking both in body and mind, ſhe was now reſolved to grant him yet a greater teſtimony of her humanity, by admitting this unfortunate perſon to take part of her ſupper, and addreſſed herſelf to him in very obliging words, told him, that it was compaſſion for his miſery which induced her to let him into her houſe, ſo deſired him to ſit down, encouraging him to eat heartily to conquer his hunger, as he had now done the cold.

As ſo courteous an invitation was not to be ſlighted, eſpecially upon an empty ſtomach, our gentlemen did not wait for many compliments, but fell to with a very keen appetite, and made the beſt uſe of his time he could, every now and then bleſſing his kind fortune for bringing him to ſuch an agreeable adventure, not knowing where it would terminater.

In the mean time, the lady did not in the leaſt doubt but that he had courage enough to anſwer her expectations in what ſhe could deſire from him, which might in ſome meaſure make amends for the diſappointment ſhe had met with from her gallant but juſt before. Whereupon, taking him by the hand, ſhe ſpoke to him after the following manner. "Although your preſent condition is "enough to perſuade me to do you all the good "ſervices I at firſt intended, yet by the gallant air

"which

" which appears in your face, I cannot help judging " that you deſerve ſome more extraordinary fa- " vors. Chance having been inſtrumental in con- " ducting you hither, love now in his turn (after " your ill fortune) has a mind to be favorable to " you in the acquaintance of an hoſteſs, who not " contented with giving you admittance into her " houſe, and a place at her table, gives you alſo leave " to partake of her own bed. This proceeding may " ſeem ſomewhat ſtrange to you, becauſe the like " happens but ſeldom; but the eſteem and the " inclination which at firſt ſight I conceived for " you, would not ſuffer me to act otherwiſe.

The merchant ſeeing that his happyineſs was like to go beyond even what he could expect, did not ſtudy for any long harangues in return for the kind expreſſions of the lady, being perhaps not uſed to manage any thing but his pen, and his ell, ſo that he contented himſelf by anſwering her in the following plain terms. " I cannot thank you enough, " madam, for your goodneſs already ſhewn me; " as well as for that which you farther intend me; " my ſimplicity being not ſufficient to furniſh me " with words enough to expreſs my ſentiments to " you. I have only this to ſay for myſelf, that " there remains a great heart to ſerve you in what " ever you may think me capable of; command " therefore as miſtreſs, and I'll faithfully obey, as " your acquired ſervant."

As many words upon theſe like occaſions are generally very needleſs, the fair one was eaſily ſatisfied by ſo free a declaration, ſo that without much loſs of time ſhe conducted him to her bed——But as the greateſt pleaſures muſt ſoon have an end, the night being paſſed, the day came on, to the great torment of the lady, who found more ſweetneſs in the

the merchant's bank, than in the marquis's court; aad now they began to think of parting:——'Tis ſaid that in love nothing is more tedious than bidding adieu; but this ſeperation was more unſupportable to the lady than to her favourite; however, as there was no avoiding it, they muſt reſt contented, leſt that their ſhort pleaſure ſhould be attended by ſome unforeſeen diſaſter in caſe this adventure ſhould come to be known; upon which they went to breakfaſt, and orders were given to the chamber-maid by her miſtreſs, to bring the beſt ſuit of cloaths which had been her deceaſed huſband's, together with whatever apparel belonged to it, in order to cloath him, who had ſo well ſupplied his place the foregoing night; which was inſtantly done: after which, our adventurer having well filled his belly, took his leave, in order to go in queſt of his valet.

I ſhall not take upon me to tell you what tears were ſhed on that occaſion, becauſe it muſt be ſuppoſed that it was with ſome reluctance that we part with any darling pleaſure. In fine our accidentally happy lovers parted, after having mutually ſworn love and ſecrecy to each other; and the ſame back door by which our knight errant was at firſt introduced to his ſcene of bliſs, ſerved him now to get out at, and was opened to let him go in ſearch of his ſervant, whom he preſently after found in bed, little minding what had become of his maſter. It is eaſy to imagine what enſued. However, after the ſervant had offered ſome light excuſes in his own defence, his maſter began to be pacified, and the more eaſily, when he conſidered that the diſgrace he had undergone, was the means of procuring him ſo many advantages as he had

had met withal. But his happineſs was ſtill farther augmented, for putting his hand into his pocket, he found a purſe of twenty piſtoles, which the lady had (unknown to him) cauſed to be conveyed therein. He could not help at the ſame time forming in his ſoul ſome extraordinary conceptions of eſteem and tenderneſs for this generous fair one, who not contenting herſelf by ſaving his life, and conferring ſuch favors on him as ſucceeded, but had alſo made him ſo agreeable a preſent; which would often make him wiſh on his journey, to have it once more in his power to teſtify his gratitude. It fell out according to his deſire; for ſince that time he has had ſeveral opportuities of returning thanks to his benefactreſs. Thus we ſee by what means love think fit to make his favorites happy, even when they leaſt expect it.

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